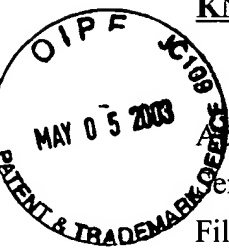


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KNI-148-A



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kawano et al.  
Serial No.: 09/810,278  
Filed: 16 March 2001  
Group Art Unit: 2878  
Examiner: T. Moran  
Confirmation No.: 7912  
Title: ANALYTICAL METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LIQUID  
SAMPLE USING NEAR INFRARED SPECTROSCOPY

LETTER OF RECORD

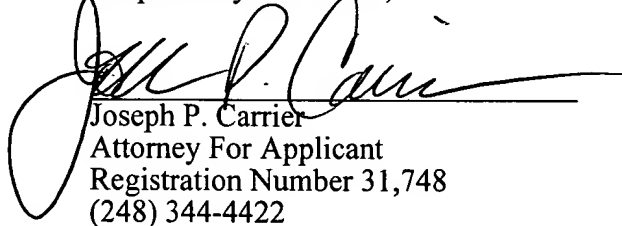
~~Patent Application~~  
Commissioner For Patents  
Washington D.C., 20231

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MAY - 6 2003  
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Sir:

In connection with the above-referenced application, pursuant to MPEP § 2001.06(b) applicant respectfully submits that the enclosed reference, U.S. Patent 6,006,119 (issued 21 December 1999) was cited in an Office Action dated 29 January 2003 for the related to co-pending application USSN 09/810,639 entitled "Analytical Method and Apparatus for Blood Using near Infrared Spectroscopy", which is commonly owned by the owners/assignees of the present application, i.e., Japan as Represented by Director of National Food Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - and - Bio-oriented Technology Research Advancement Institution. Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is directed to (claims) subject matter which is patentably distinct from the subject matter claimed in the related application.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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29 April 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Box Patent Application, Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231 on 29 April 2003.

JPC/km

  
Kathryn MacKenzie